

REMARKS

Claims 1-46 are in the subject application, as filed. The claims had been restricted to two groups. Claims 1-14, 24-31 and 39-42 have been examined in the present case. Claims 15-23, 32-38, 43-46 have been withdrawn from prosecution. Applicant has again amended Claim 1 and has added the language "; and wherein the composition has an absorption loss of less than 0.5 dB/cm at a wavelength of 1550 nm" at the end of Claim 1. Claim 2 has been cancelled. Claim 5 was previously amended,

REJECTION UNDER 35 USC 103(a)

Claims 1-4, 24-31 and 39 are rejected as obvious over Chem Abstract 118: 9914. Applicant again disagrees with that assessment and continues to argue that the present invention teaches an improvement over the art by providing compositions having very low optical loss at telecommunications wavelengths (as stated on page 4, line 3, of paragraph [0013]). More specifically, as stated on page 19, paragraph [0045], the "energy curable compositions and polymeric materials of the present invention which are suitable for optical applications have an absorption loss of below about 0.5 dB/cm at a wavelength of 1550 nm. " (relevant text continues). These limitations are now in Claim 1 and sequential claims. Such low loss compositions are neither disclosed nor taught in the applied abstract. The only loss information in the abstract is that the coated composition did not show any transmission loss at 150 degrees for 1 month.

In view of the present amendment and for the above reasons, reconsideration of the final rejection is requested and allowance of Claims 1, 3-14, 24-31 and 39-42 is respectfully solicited.

If anything further is needed to advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact applicants' attorney at the telephone number below.

Respectfully submitted,



BARBARA C. SIEGELL
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 30,684
Telephone: 302-992-4931
Facsimile: 302-992-5374

Dated: July 21, 2004